

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On pages 3:

Please delete third full paragraph.

Page 3, fourth full paragraph:

--According to the invention, a hydroxypalatite metal composite material is provided which is constructed as a metal network ~~obtained by~~

- ~~(a) producing a mixture of powdery hydroxypalatite and powdery metal;~~
- ~~(b) prepressing of the mixture obtained in step (a) to a green compact and~~
- ~~(c) sintering of the green compact obtained in step (b) at a pressure of 1,4 to 7,7 GPa and a temperature of 500 to 900°C.--~~

On page 4, after the first paragraph, insert the following paragraph:

--The composite material according to the present invention is obtained by

- (a) producing a mixture of powdery hydroxypalatite and powdery metal;
- (b) prepressing of the mixture obtained in step (a) to a green compact and
- (c) sintering of the green compact obtained in step (b) at a pressure of 1,4 to 7,7 GPa and a temperature of 500 to 900°C.--